[3rd March 1927

starting rural dispensaries is that the taluk board should be in a position to finance the venture so far as the medicines are concerned. We are therefore asking the taluk board to put their finances in order."

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar :—" May I know, Sir, what is the hon. the Minister's idea of 'for the present'?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" It means till the taluk board sends a satisfactory reply."

Mr. T. Adinarayana Chettiyar :—" Is it the Taluk Board of Polur, Sir?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" No, Sir. It is the Vellore Taluk Board."

Mr. D. Thomas :—" Has there been any inspection of rural hospitals up till now?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" I should like to have notice."

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—"I heard the hon. Minister say: till the receipt of a reply from the taluk board. May I know what is the nature of the reply which he expects from the taluk board?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" I have already explained it, Sir."

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—" May I take it, Sir, that it is as to the financial aspect of the taluk board?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—" In that case, if unfortunately the financial aspect of the taluk board does not prove satisfactory, is it the intention of the Government not to give any dispensary for the poor people in that locality?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" It does not follow, Sir."

Rural dispensaries in the Presidency.

* 201 *Q.*—Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of rural dispensaries started in the Presidency during 1925–26 and 1926–27;

(*b*) what defects, if any, exist in the working of the system; and

(*c*) whether the question of allowing local bodies to open ayurvedic dispensaries under the new " Rural Medical Scheme" has been considered and decided?

A.—(*a*) The number of dispensaries actually opened under the scheme in the years 1925–26 and 1926–27 is 107 and 46 respectively.

(*b*) So far no defects have been specifically brought to the notice of the Government. The District Medical Officers are being instructed to inspect these dispensaries periodically and to submit reports of their inspections to the Surgeon-General,

3rd March 1927]

(c) Yes. The Government have decided that for the present the medical practitioners to be assisted with subsidies under the scheme should be medical graduates or L.M.P.'s.

Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi :—" May I know why only 46 dispensaries have been opened in 1926–27 ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" That depends upon the action taken by the district boards and taluk boards."

Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi :—" May I know how many were sanctioned during that year ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" Three hundred and nine, Sir, up to date."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" In regard to (c) of the answer, may I know why the hon. Minister restricts for the present subsidies only to medical graduates or L.M.P.'s and does not extend them to ayurvedic doctors ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" That is because we are not in a position to determine qualified and accredited practitioners in the Indian systems of medicine. The first set of graduates from the Indian School of Medicine will not be available till the end of 1928."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" May I know, Sir, if taluk boards are not now running ayurvedic dispensaries under the authority of the Government ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" Yes, Sir. If they can find the whole of the funds themselves."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" If they are running them with competency in the opinion of the Government, how does it happen that ayurvedic doctors are not competent to run rural dispensaries ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" Government do not trouble themselves whether the men are competent or not except the taluk boards who take the necessary responsibility."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" Then, why are the Government troubling themselves in regard to the rural areas where the taluk and district boards have equal powers of control and have equal rights of administration ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" Government have got to provide grants and they have got to look and satisfy themselves."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" But do they not provide general grants to the taluk boards for utilization by the taluk boards themselves ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" Not in this matter."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" Why not, Sir ? "

[3rd March 1927

Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi :—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government are aware that certain taluk boards are providing greater funds for running these dispensaries because they find that the contributions given by the Government are not sufficient ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" I have no information, Sir."

Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" May I know why only so few dispensaries as 46 have been opened in 1926-27 ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" Up to September 1926, Sir, 259 rural dispensaries have been actually opened."

Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" May I know whether the taluk boards which have not opened dispensaries in this year will be allowed to open them in the next ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" Yes, Sir."

Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" I know that, Sir. My question is about the dispensaries provided for in this year."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" We have provided for a total number of 125 dispensaries and I believe the total is somewhere about 380."

Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi :—" May I know whether the Government have called for information from the several taluk boards about the working of the ayurvedic dispensaries in their areas ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" No, Sir."

Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi :—" Without calling for any such information, am I to understand that the Government have come to this conclusion that ayurvedic doctors cannot now be entertained and that subsidies should be confined to medical graduates and L.M.P.'s ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" As I already said, the Government have found that they are not in a position to find out and satisfy themselves about qualified ayurvedic and unani doctors and they have therefore decided to confine themselves to those who are medical graduates."

Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi :—" Are there any qualifications fixed for ayurvedic and unani doctors by the Government ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" The scheme does not apply to them at all, Sir."

Rao Bahadur K. Sitarama Reddi :—" May I know, Sir, whether out of the total number of dispensaries for which provision is made in the budget leaving aside the 46 dispensaries that have been opened, the rest can be opened in the course of the next year ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" Two hundred and fifty-nine have been already opened, Sir."

3rd March 1927]

Rao Bahadur K. SITARAMA REDDI :—" When was the answer received, Sir? For, it says 46 were opened in the last year and with 107 of the previous year the total comes to 153. I think there is some mistake somewhere."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" No, Sir. There were many opened in the years previous."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" May I know if the Government have considered the advisability of enjoining on all rural dispensary men that they should undergo some course of training in the ayurvedic system of medicine also by way of adding to their usefulness to the rural people ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" They do not propose doing it."

Extension of the Government Women and Children's Hospital at Mangalore.

* 202 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government Women and Children's Hospital extension scheme in Mangalore was included, as promised, in the very emergent works considered in connexion with the budget for 1926–27;

(*b*) whether the execution of the scheme is still kept in abeyance and the public fund raised for this purpose now amounting to Rs. 30,000 made to lie idle in the bank; and

(*c*) whether the contribution already promised by Government will be provided for at least in the next budget?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the explanatory note relating to the motion for the supplementary demand of Rs. 100 passed at the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 24th January 1927 in connexion with the scheme for the extension and improvement of the Government Hospital for Women and Children at Mangalore. It is proposed to start work during the current year, the expenditure incurred being met from the public subscriptions. It is proposed to provide a sum of Rs. 30,000 representing the Government share of the cost of the scheme in the Civil Budget Estimates for 1927–28.

Agriculture

Stoppage of export of oil-cakes from the Presidency.

* 203 Q.—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Director of Agriculture has recommended the stoppage of export of all oil-cakes from the Presidency so that the agriculture in the Presidency might benefit by the retention of oil-cake in the country and what action the Government have taken in connexion with this recommendation?

A.—The Director of Agriculture recommended in 1924 that the whole question of imposing restrictions on the export of manures should be examined by a committee to be appointed by the Government of India; this recommendation was forwarded by this Government to the Government of India in the same year.